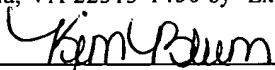


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IAP15 Rec'd PCT/PTO 20 APR 2006

Date: April 20, 2006 Label No. EV79004252/US I hereby certify that, on the date indicated above, I deposited this paper with identified attachments and/or fee with the U.S. Postal Service and that it was addressed for delivery to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 by "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service.

Kim Blum  
Name (Print)

  
Signature

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:	FEURER et al.	)	Examiner:	Unassigned
		)		
Application No.:	Unassigned	)	Group Art Unit:	Unassigned
		)		
Filed:	April 20, 2006	)	Confirmation No.:	Unassigned
		)		
Docket No.:	3075-011	)	Customer No.:	33432

For: AMINOALKYL-PYRAZINONES AND -PYRIDONES AS THROMBIN INHIBITORS

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

April 20, 2006

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application on the merits, applicants respectfully request that the application be amended as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** (as amended under Article 19) are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 35 of this paper.